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SOURCE Soviet newspapers as indicated.

KRIVOY ROG MINING BASIN NEEDS FURTHER MECHANIZATIONMORE MECHANIZATION URGED -- Pravda Ukrainskaya, No 69, 24 Mar 49

Mechanization of the Krivoy Rog Iron-Ore Basin has already exceeded the prewar level. The basic operations of conveying, hauling, and loading into railroad cars have been mechanized. These operations employ a large number of very important types of machinery, such as rabbler hoists, drilling hammers, loading machines, electric locomotives, and excavators.

However, many important operations are still done by hand or are poorly mechanized. Among these operations are bracing of horizontal and vertical pits, removal of gangue during sinking and sumping of shafts, hand operation of pneumatic drills, separation of debris on screening machines, and removal of ore from chute drawers. Thirty percent of all drilling operations and 70 percent of ore and gangue removal operations are done by hand. Auxiliary processes, such as preparation and installation of reinforcement in the shafts, supplying of tools and materials, and maneuvering work, are poorly mechanized.

Mechanization of loading and unloading operations is especially inadequate. Only the unloading of heavy timbers is done by crane. Last year, inefficient unloading of freight cars cost the "Krivoshrada" (Krivoy Rog Ore Basin) Trust 110,000 rubles.

MANGANESE MINING NEEDS MODERNIZATION -- Pravda Ukrainskaya, No. 76, 1 Apr 49

The old method of cutting ore in the Krivoy Rog Basin was by pneumatic hammer. A hydromechanical method was introduced for the first time in the world in Mine No 12 imeni Voroshilov. Manganese Mines No 8 and 12 used a hydromechanical method up to the beginning of World War II.

The Margineks (Manganese) Basin mines were exploited from 1939 through the first half of 1941 with two special pieces of equipment and results showed that hydromechanical methods greatly reduced costs of production and lessened the work of the concentrating plant.

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Before the war a number of authorities were interested in extending hydromechanical methods of mining in the Marganets Basin. These included "Glavruda" (Main Ore Administration), the Hydromechanization Trust of the Nonferrous Metals Institute (manager, Professor Kholin), the Institute of Machining, and the Ore Experimental Station of the Krivoy Rog Scientific Research Institute. The Institute of Mining, Academy of Sciences USSR was in charge of the general management of the work. The practical work was entrusted to two engineers, Shokrin and Il'inskiy. These engineers are both in Krivoy Rog at present. Pit No 5 of the Iron Mine imeni Il'icha is being exploited by the hydromechanical method but little is being done to apply this method to the manganese mines. "Nikopol'-Marganets" Trust and "Glavruda" are being held responsible.

MINERS FULFILL FIRST QUARTER PLAN -- Moskovskiy Bol'shevik, No 81, 7 Apr 49

Workers of the Krivoy Rog Iron-Ore Basin completed the program for the first quarter of 1949 ahead of schedule and mined 16.8 percent more ore than in the same period of 1948. The mining administration made several million rubles profit during the first 2 months of 1949.

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